Hindustan Copper Ltd

3145. SHRI RAM NARAIN BERWA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total profit earned by the Hindustan Copper Limited during the last five years;

(b) whether the Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL) has now been given clearance for implementing its expansion programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the expansion of the HCL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) During the period 1986–87 to 1990–91, Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL) earned a net profit of Rs. 144.17 crores.

(b) The Government has not approved any expansion programme of HCL. However, the Company has identified a number of schemes for expansion of its capacities.

(c) and (d). The details of some of the important schemes identified by HGL during 8th Plan subject to availability of funds are as follows:

Estimated cost	*Project duration*	
	(Rs. in crores)	*(In years)*
I. Development of Chapri–Sideshwar Mine of 0.75 million tonnes ore per year capacity with a matching concentrator.	176.00	5/6
II. Expansion of Malanjkhand mine from 2 to 3 million tonnes of ore per year.	100.00	3
III. Development of Danwas mine of 0.6 million tonnes of ore per year.	90.00	5/6
IV. Khetri smelter & refinery expansion from 31,000 to 45,000 tonnes per year.	49.50	3/4

Production of Rails

3146. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to set up the production of 60 Kg. rails indigenously in the steel plants; and

(b) the total requirement of rails and the value in foreign exchange likely to be saved by indigenous production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Consumption of Electricity by Agricultural Sector

3147. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON–CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state: